



NEWS RELEASE

SBA Number : 05-01-1005
Release Date: Immediate

Contact: Susan Chang
714-550-7420 x 3808
e-mail susan.chang@sba.gov

SBA SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR 2005 SMALL BUSINESS WEEK AWARDS

Santa Ana, Calif. – The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is currently soliciting nominations of small businesses and small business advocates as part of their annual Small Business Week Awards. Nominations are due to the Santa Ana District SBA office by **November 15, 2004**. National awards will be presented during National Small Business Week Awards in April 2005.

Outstanding small business owners are honored in the following categories:

- Small Business Person of the Year
- Exporter of the Year
- Young Entrepreneur (under 30 before June 2005)
- Family Owned Business Award

The *Small Business Person of the Year* award is evaluated on staying power, growth in employment, increase in sales/unit volume, innovation, response to adversity, and community involvement.

Advocate awards are presented to persons who have used their professional skills or personal talents to further public understanding and awareness of small business in the following categories.

- Minority Small Business Advocate of the Year
- Women in Business Advocate of the Year
- Veteran Small Business Advocate of the Year
- Home-Based Business Advocate of the Year
- Financial Services Advocate of the Year
- Small Business Journalist of the Year

Nominations in all Small Business Week award categories can be made by any individual or organization, such as professional and trade associations, business organizations, chambers of commerce, banks, or small business employees. For more information on the nomination process, please contact Sylvia Gutierrez at the SBA at (714) 550-7420, ext. 3107 or email her at sylvia.gutierrez@sba.gov.

###